



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending May 6, 2012

## SCATTERED SHOWERS PROVIDE LITTLE RELIEF

Unusually high temperatures and sunny days combined to minimize the benefits of scattered showers that fell in many areas across the state. Reporters in all regions reiterated the need for a general soaking rain. Row crops were holding on with three-fourths of the corn and winter wheat acres rated in good-to-excellent condition. Crop development continues to advance well ahead of the normal pace. Pastures declined some from the previous week, but cattle were reported to be mostly good condition. Other farm activities this week included post-emergence herbicide and fertilizer applications, cutting hay, scouting for insects and diseases, harvesting strawberries, and continued assessment of freeze damage on fruit crops.

There were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 13 percent very short, 34 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent very short, 35 percent short, 57 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state averaged well above normal. Rainfall amounts averaged below normal across the state despite hit or miss thunderstorms that developed this past week.

n/a = not available

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Planted	98	93	41	74	Cattle	1	3	23	61	12
Corn – Emerged	92	75	27	48	Corn	0	4	20	60	16
Cotton – Planted	29	6	2	10	Pastures	2	10	32	48	8
Hay – 1 <sup>st</sup> Cutting	37	23	3	7	Winter Wheat	1	5	19	49	26
Soybeans – Planted	23	9	1	6						
Soybeans – Emerged	5	n/a	0	0						
Winter Wheat – Turning Color	49	n/a	2	1						

### County Agent Comments

*“Depending on the part of the county you live in, crop condition were at both extremes of the spectrum. On the north end of the county around the Gates, Halls area and bordering Dyer County due to recent rains last week crop conditions on corn and wheat were very favorable. However, on the South end of the county, Ripley and Henning area, conditions were becoming dry. Corn was twisting and newly planted corn and beans were in desperate need of a rain. On Sunday May 6th, the majority of the county received on average three quarter of an inch of rain. Overall crop condition and pasture condition are favorable.”*

**J. C. Dupree, Lauderdale County**

*“Producers have been busy side-dressing corn with nitrogen, applying post-emerge herbicides on corn and planting soybeans. Hay producers have taken advantage of the dry weather and have harvested most of the first cutting of forage crops.”*

**Jeff Lannom, Weakley County**

*“Some of the early planted corn, wheat, hay, and pastures are starting to suffer from lack of moisture. We really need a good soaking rain.”*

**Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County**

*“Giles County finally got some rain this week. Most reports from 3 to 5 tenths. Corn planting about done. Some soybean producers have been waiting on rain to start back planting beans. Lower than normal hay yields being reported.”*

**Kevin Rose, Giles County**

*“Our hay is yielding 30 to 50%. Pastures are looking bad. Wheat has leaves drying up and turning early. Young corn and beans are suffering.”*

**Larry Moorehead, Moore County**

*“Continued dry weather is causing concerns and effecting crop planting and progress. Passing showers produced rain on Thursday ranging from 0.10 to 0.20, which is the first measurable rainfall many areas have seen in three weeks. Planting has halted waiting on moisture to return. The (wheat) crop is turning and showing signs of ripening, dry weather is affecting grain fill. The (corn) crop is basically planted with the exception of a few silage acres. The crop is holding its own; however, stands are thin on droughty spots in the field. Dry weather has halted (cotton) planting, 75% of the crop is planted with 20% emerged.”*

**Ed Burns, Franklin County**

*“First cutting hay getting started but may be a little light in quantity. Some light rain early Sat. morning but needing much more. Tobacco transplant is getting underway.”*

**Scott Chadwell, Putnam County**

*“First cutting hay is progressing ahead of normal. Small shower on Thursday just settled the dust. Very dry and pastures are starting to look bad. Producers are already concerned about the growing season.”*

**Kim Frady, Bradley County**

*“Freeze damage on fruit much more severe than first thought. Most of the blackberry crop lost. Much of the grape crop lost. 60 - 70% loss on peaches. Apple loss around 30%.”*

**Neal Denton, Knox County**

### TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

For week ending: May 6, 2012 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending May 6, 2012				Current Week 5/06/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	90	61	75	10	0.16	1	13.63	-7.09	3.13	-3.64
Brownsville_TN	91	64	77	12	0.10	1	11.28	-9.22	1.04	-5.50
Covington	89	63	76	11	0.10	1	13.58	-6.94	1.44	-5.22
Dyersburg	93	64	79	13	1.59	1	11.92	-6.71	2.78	-2.87
Huntingdon_Wate	89	60	75	12	1.04	2	11.34	-8.27	2.65	-3.04
Jackson_Exp_Stn	90	62	77	13	0.00	0	12.36	-7.27	1.42	-4.78
Lexington_TN	88	57	74	10	0.79	2	13.62	-5.37	2.47	-3.17
Martin	89	65	78	15	0.11	1	13.66	-5.74	2.90	-3.09
Memphis_AG	92	65	78	11	0.00	0	12.08	-8.10	1.03	-5.48
Milan	91	62	77	14	0.27	2	11.99	-7.80	1.48	-4.52
Paris	88	61	74	12	0.55	2	12.27	-7.18	2.57	-3.20
Savannah_6SW	89	59	75	10	0.84	3	16.78	-5.43	3.82	-2.75
Selmer	91	57	76	13	0.19	1	14.71	-7.30	1.92	-4.67
Union_City	90	61	76	13	0.45	3	11.73	-7.38	2.13	-3.63
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	91	57	75	13	0.76	6	11.27	-7.82	1.89	-3.38
Cookeville	87	56	71	11	0.26	3	17.44	-3.47	2.31	-3.40
Crossville_AP	85	56	71	12	0.13	3	16.22	-4.80	1.71	-4.11
Dickson_AG	87	55	72	10	0.21	1	13.35	-6.88	1.55	-4.50
Dover_1W	87	61	74	12	0.40	3	13.53	-6.41	2.84	-3.03
Fayetteville_TN	90	56	75	13	0.35	3	17.28	-3.80	2.29	-3.34
Jamestown	85	55	70	11	0.61	2	18.46	-0.94	2.74	-2.67
Kingston_Spring	91	56	74	13	0.87	2	13.79	-5.74	2.84	-2.56
Lewisburg	90	48	72	10	0.37	2	11.71	-8.81	1.02	-4.76
Livingston_WLIV	88	55	72	11	0.28	3	18.29	-0.69	2.04	-3.27
Lobelville	89	55	73	11	1.53	2	13.75	-7.36	3.12	-2.83
Murfreesboro_5N	90	56	73	11	0.23	2	13.48	-5.98	1.37	-4.15
Nashville_Metro	89	60	75	12	0.39	2	14.30	-3.43	3.25	-2.09
Oneida	88	52	70	12	0.59	3	19.83	0.33	2.93	-2.55
Portland_TN	89	57	73	12	1.13	4	14.32	-4.47	2.64	-2.69
Pulaski_Water_P	87	54	72	7	0.33	3	14.59	-6.39	3.36	-2.05
Shelbyville	90	57	75	11	0.55	3	15.27	-5.38	1.35	-4.25
Sparta_TN	90	54	73	11	0.42	3	14.09	-6.26	1.11	-4.52
Springfield	89	60	74	13	0.51	2	15.02	-3.25	3.33	-1.91
Springhill	89	50	72	11	0.49	3	13.66	-7.30	2.57	-3.60
Tullahoma	90	56	75	12	0.57	3	14.47	-7.58	1.10	-4.81
Waynesboro_TN	88	53	71	10	0.59	3	14.98	-7.45	3.14	-3.33
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	92	60	76	13	0.00	0	15.42	-5.61	1.09	-4.04
Cleveland_6NNE	89	55	73	11	0.27	3	13.38	-7.65	0.90	-4.40
Dayton	88	57	74	11	0.01	1	15.39	-6.36	1.06	-4.49
Erwin_1W	84	51	69	12	0.42	3	15.91	-0.61	5.21	0.34
Gatlinburg_2SW	87	55	70	11	1.16	3	23.31	3.94	6.37	1.09
Greeneville	86	54	71	11	1.01	3	16.99	2.04	5.87	1.73
Kingston_AG	89	60	74	14	0.00	0	17.63	-4.15	2.65	-2.88
Knoxville_AP	88	60	75	14	0.53	2	19.96	2.02	4.17	-0.31
Newcomb	87	56	72	14	1.09	3	20.41	0.91	3.95	-1.53
Norris_4NE	87	55	72	11	0.83	2	21.61	2.45	5.10	-0.01
Tri-City_RGNL_A	86	55	71	11	0.07	2	14.63	0.12	3.90	-0.13

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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